

EXTRACTS.

NO MORE.

In life, no more—the leaves fall fast,
And all the leaves were overcast;
We looked into each other's eyes—
We kissed one kiss between our sighs—
It was the first kiss and the last.
In vain we wait with aching hearts—
No more across the silent waste.
Come, protests faint, come faint replies—
In life, no more!

No more in dullness or in lust,
In April airs, in autumn balm;
We meet—and every heartbeats die;
We kiss—and all the livid skies—
No more—the moment came, and passed—
In life, no more!

RETURNING TO THE "BUSTLE".

A writer upon Paris fashions announces that ladies "are returning to 'tournure', which expression is understood to signify in plain terms that "the bustle" is in vogue again; and indeed, it is apparent that beneath the skirts of the sex, at the back, there now waxes and "wagges" a mysterious something which renders sitting down difficult, and which can only be a segment of the old crinoline circle. Of course protest will be of no avail; considerations of hygiene or aesthetic, of grace or of comfort must yield to the dictates of that mysterious and absolute power which presides over the feminine toilet. In one of his earliest sketches, Charles Dickens wrote of "a little coquette with a large bustle, who looked like a French lorthopper appealing to a gentleman in three waistcoats." The bustle is the beginning of the hoop, the "jupon gonfle comme une voile de drap d'heure." The gamine of Garavini's ring abroad after his elegante, "Céleste" alone!" At a later period John Leech had to encircle the lower limbs of his ladies in crinoline hirdresses of prodigious diameter. It is melancholy to think of the return of those monstrosities.—*World*.

A CAMBODIAN LEGEND.
THE GROTTO OF "PHNOM-PASSET."

During the reign of Phnaha Crec (a name which resembles a statorius—a suze), a Prince named Kimer (which appellation in pronunciation seems to me something like a decidedly Welsh recovery from a violent extirpation) died, leaving one of his wives in that condition aspired to by ladies who love their lords. Although this woman, after her husband's death, took all possible pains to conceal, not only her condition, but herself, the royal sorcerers discovered her retreat, and represented to the King the dangers which threatened him if he allowed the branch of a rival race to flourish and multiply.

The monarch was terrified by the sombre prognostications of his soothsayers, and he made up his mind to the assassination of his cousin. The wretched Princess was immolated in an immense plain. Her executioner cut her body into three portions, and went away satisfied with the perfection of their work; but they had hardly turned their backs before a child was born to the expiring victim, and was taken under the charge of a tutelary genius of the family, who, in the form of a bird, arrived very opportunely, and covered the new born with protecting wings.

We have the old story of romance, under a new veil. The bird relinquished its charge to the care of a shepherd, named Ta Cithé, who reared the infant. The good man was not slow to observe that the orphan was, like Buddha, marked on the palms of hands and feet with the sign which distinguishes those born to greatness. The volitions of the cuttle defined those circles or wheels which the Kmers call *Chang Chae* (equivalent to the Hindu *Chakra*). From his earliest years the child developed an extraordinary precocity, and soon became an object of veneration to the people of the neighbouring regions, who hurried to look upon the features, and listen to the wisdom, of the "protected of the bird."

Well, it was not until the boy had attained his seventh year that the King learned through his anguish that his young relative was in existence, in defiance of the orders His Majesty had given and the precautions he had taken to have the babe killed in its mother's womb. The fact that the young Prince bore on his person the tokens of

ability and power greatly added to the embarrassment of the sovereign, who finally decided on the usual oriental ultimate argument. The lad must be murdered at all hazards. The first act of the programme was to find him, and bring him before his august relative. In order to make sure of the event, all male children below ten years of age were to be haled to the Palace; and there the Buddhist rings too surely established the identity of little Kmer. The "protected of the bird" was still, apparently, under divine guardianship for his old foster father, Ta Kuhé, realizing the risks incurred by his handling, managed to convey him out of the Palace of Angor and into the recesses of the woods. The King's servants, sent in hot pursuit, were unable to overtake the fugitives, who took refuge in the province of Chung Pré.

Still the old shepherd did not feel that his pet was safe, and desired to take him to the other side of the Mekong. No boat was available, but he made a raft of the banks of the stream discovered two trees, which had obligingly fallen so as to make just such a bridge as was required; and the old peasant reached the opposite bank in safety with his precious charge. Arrived there, and out of danger he plucked the branch of one of the overgrown trees, and stuck it in the ground so as to make some shade for the infant. The bough instantly took root, grew visibly, and in a few hours was itself a stately and commanding shelter, beneath which the Prince and his protector found convenient if not luxurious quarters.

We cannot follow the infant Cambodian Ulysses through all his wanderings and his escape; he did escape unscathed, grow up, and as a necessity of liberty fell madly in love, but at the village maiden, beautiful but of most humble birth.

His unnatural relative, the King, was again informed of the young Prince's whereabouts; and organized a new expedition of persecution and pursuit. Still attended by the faithful and affectionate Ta Kuhé, who laid down his old life in his service, the Prince had his old refuge in the Grotto of Phnom-Passey, and there the tide of ill-fortune reached its last. His relative and fatal foe, King Phnaha, once temporarily fell into bed with a suffering. And then in the present and last times of accession the Kingdom fell to the "protected of the bird." So the great mandarins, in solemn concilie assembled, decided, and they caused search to be made for the much persecuted heir, who, having no longer an occasion for concealment, presented himself to his people, who had greatly sympathized with his misfortunes, and greeted his return with acclamation. He was crowned with the stone of the cavern the legend which I have just related, and the rock still records.

The first care of the new ruler was to restore the grotto where he had terminated his life of adventure, and received the news of his accession to the throne. He also had engraved upon the stone of the cavern the legend which I have just related, and the rock still records.

As in his period of calamity, so in the elevated position to which was raised, the young Prince did not forget the loyal peasants whom he had first found drawing water at a country well. He married her, and she bore three handsome boys to her.

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It was the first kiss and the last.

In vain we wait with aching hearts—

No more across the silent waste.

Come, protests faint, come faint replies—

In life, no more!

No more in dullness or in lust,

In April airs, in autumn balm;

We meet—and every heartbeats die;

We kiss—and all the livid skies—

No more—the moment came, and passed—

In life, no more!

THE Undersigned, having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to grant Insurances as follows—

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NOTICE.

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